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## OCSPP Colleagues

As we start our holiday season and approach a New Year, we wanted to take a moment to celebrate the incredible accomplishments achieved by OCSPP in 2018 and – *most importantly* - to extend our genuine appreciation to all of you for your valuable contributions.

In reflecting on our accomplishments, it is clear that OCSPP is an organization filled with hard working, committed, and extremely talented individuals.

Your hard work is reflected in our organization's 2018 achievements:

In 2018, OCSPP met the demanding timeframes for the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act while simultaneously completing other mission critical activities such as: proposing changes to the dust-lead hazard standards within an aggressive 90-day court ordered deadline; proposing rules to prevent new uses of asbestos; finalizing the formaldehyde rule to update voluntary consensus standards; issuing problem formulation documents for the first 10 TSCA existing chemicals undergoing Section 6 review; releasing the draft risk evaluation for PV-29; and issuing a systematic review document to ensure transparent, reproducible, and credible TSCA evaluations of science.

OCSPP continued the outstanding performance of making 99% of the registration review decisions within required statutory timeframes. In fiscal year 2018 OCSPP registered 23 new active ingredients and 147 new uses of existing pesticides. Our experts completed their scientific assessments on numerous complicated issues and high-profile chemicals such as the atrazine draft human health risk assessment; glyphosate draft human health and ecological risk assessments; and preliminary ecological and human health risk assessments for clothianidin, thiamethoxam, and dinotefuran and preliminary ecological risk assessment for imidacloprid. We successfully established an Endangered Species Act Interagency Working Group, signing Memorandum of Agreement with DOI, DOC, and NMFS to provide recommendations to improve ESA consultation process. Following an extensive review and collaborative effort with numerous organizations and stakeholders, OCSPP extended the registration of Dicamba for two years for “over-the-top” use to control weeds in fields for cotton and soybean plants genetically engineered to resist dicamba. We also made significant advancements in biotechnology registering a new mosquito biopesticide that can reduce mosquitos that spread numerous diseases of significant human health concern. OCSPP's EDSP program screened 3,000 chemicals for E&R and 1,000 for S&T.

Recognizing the challenging work load and need for process improvements, OCSPP was one of the first offices to adopt the Agency's LEAN management initiative. OCSPP now has 28 LEAN champions and multiple LEAN projects underway! We want to give a shout out to our first Kaizen LEAN team – the new chemicals program. With hard work and a focus on meeting our statutory deadlines, by the end of the fiscal year –the program achieved completing 71% of new PMNs within 90 days.

Experts in all three of our offices: OPPT, OPP, and OSCP have made OCSPP leaders in reducing the need for animal testing. This past year OCSPP released a Strategic Plan to promote the development and implementation of alternative test methods and strategies to reduce, refine or replace vertebrate animal testing.

Finally, we want to especially acknowledge the dedication and hard work of those in all our Offices who provide support in administrative areas such as human resources, IT, budget, contracts, grants, facilities, strategic planning, and other support upon which we all depend to do our jobs.

***Thank you for your commitment and dedication to EPA and OCSPP's mission. Nancy, Erik, Lek and I are all proud and honored to be part of this outstanding organization! As always, all our doors are always open so please don't hesitate to stop by and speak with any of us.***

We wish you and your families a joyful holiday and a very Happy New Year!

Charlotte, Nancy, Erik, and Lek